

November



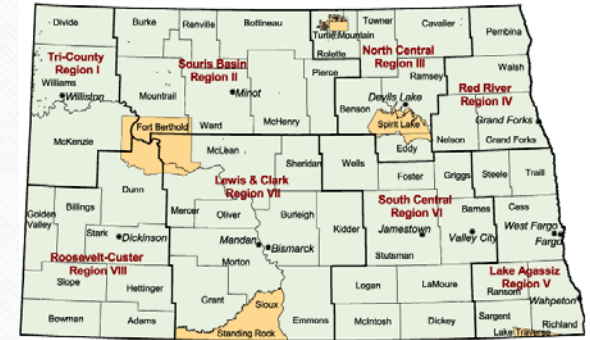
In 1990, President George Bush
declared November as
National American Indian Heritage Month



Every November, people all-over America celebrate and learn about the history and culture of *Native American* people.

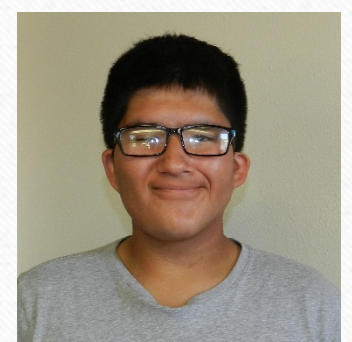


Do you know **how many**
Native American people
live in **North Dakota**?



About 68,000 *Native Americans*

Some *Native American* students come
to our school to learn. How many?



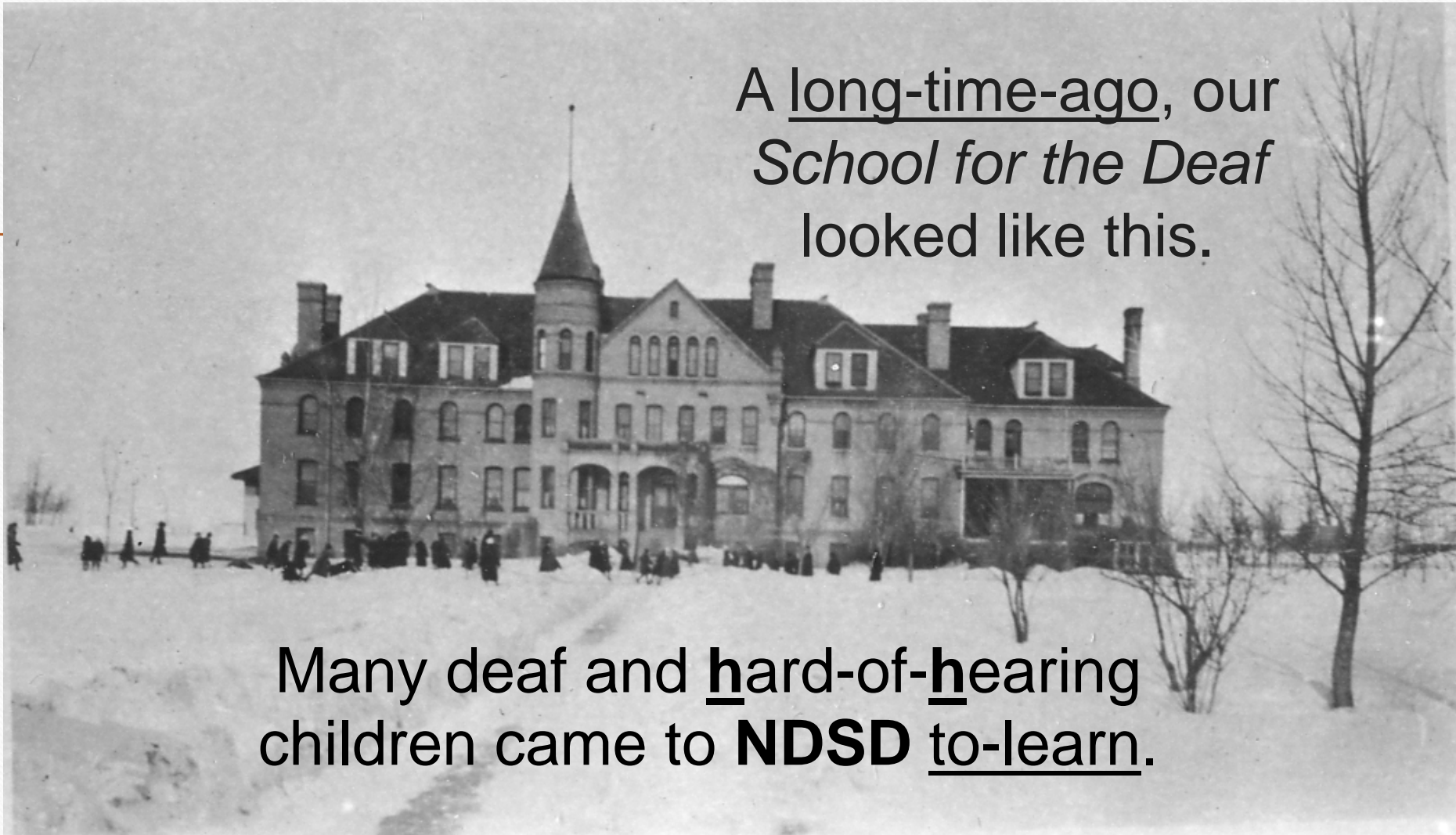
Native American people cherish
Mother Earth and nature.
They love trees, rivers, birds, and animals.



Beautiful nature
(trees, water, birds, grass)
surrounds our school.



A long-time-ago, our
School for the Deaf
looked like this.



Many deaf and hard-of-hearing
children came to **NDSD** to-learn.



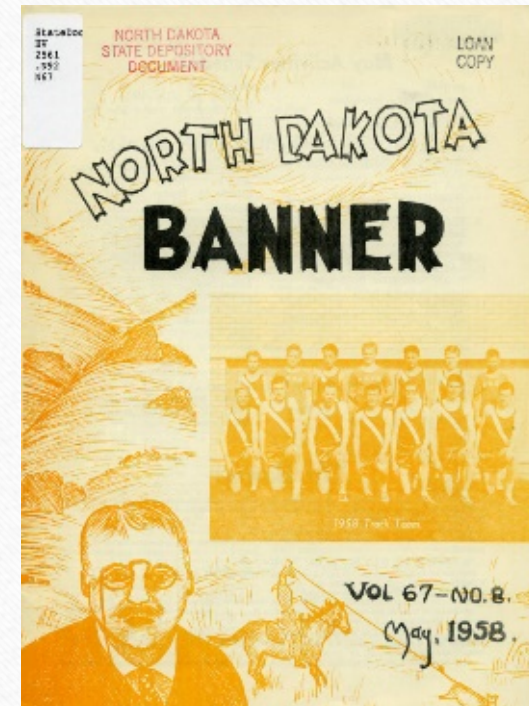
The old boys' dorm
looked like this.

There were many rooms
because many deaf boys lived there!

Some deaf boys who lived in
the dorm were *Native American*.

Old **NDSD Banner** magazines have many stories of our school's past-history.

The following three short stories are about *Native American* boys who attended **our school** many years ago. Their stories are fascinating.





The boys' names were:

1. Swift Runner
2. Francis Feather (FF)
3. John Clarke (J)

Native American Story #1

Swift Runner



Swift Runner

In 1910, a *Native American* boy from the ***Lakota*** Indian tribe attended **NDSD**.

He was hard-of-hearing.

He was also **blind** (saw nothing).



In 1910, **NDSD** planned a Race-Track Day.

Coach told the
NDSD girls and boys
“Everyone must
participate in the
race-track events.”



The blind-boy told Coach,
“No, I don't-want to-participate.”



The blind-boy said,
“The other kids can see, can race.
I can't see. I don't-know where to-run.”





Coach pondered ...

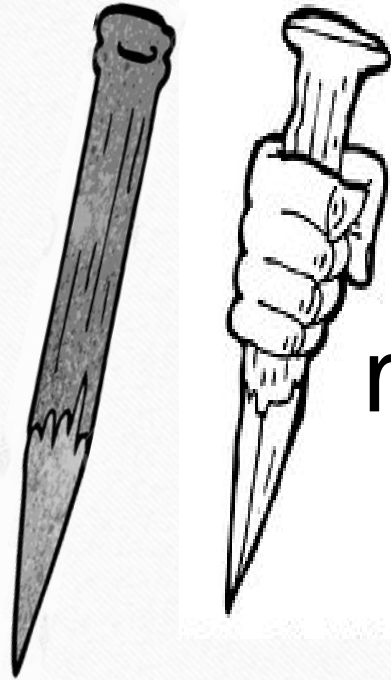
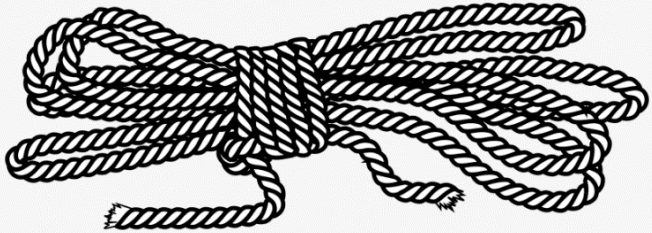
How can I help-the
blind-boy participate
(to-run around-the-track)?





Then Coach had an idea!

Coach got a
long rope



and
many wood
stakes.

Coach pounded the stakes
all-around the track.

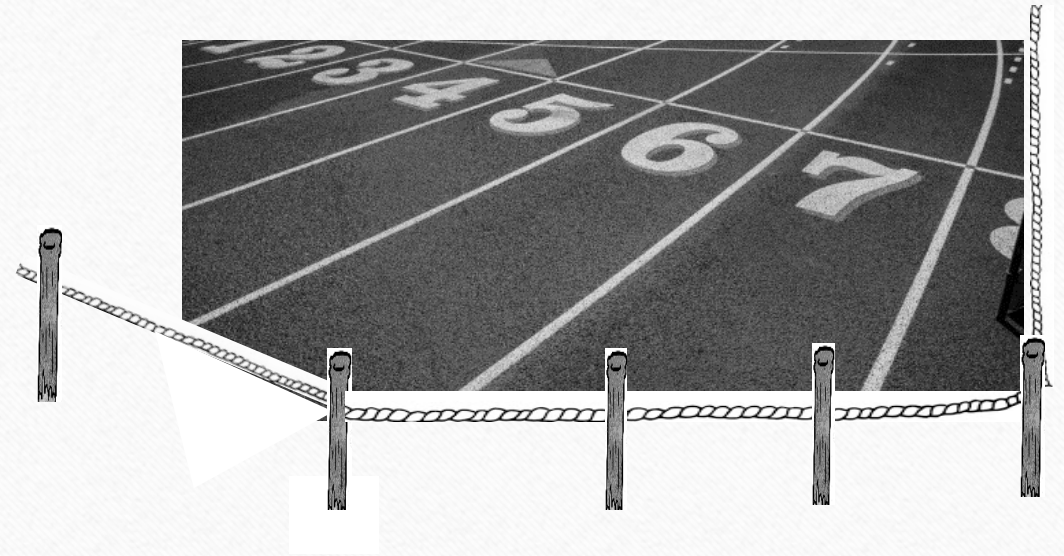


Then Coach
tied the-rope
onto the stakes.



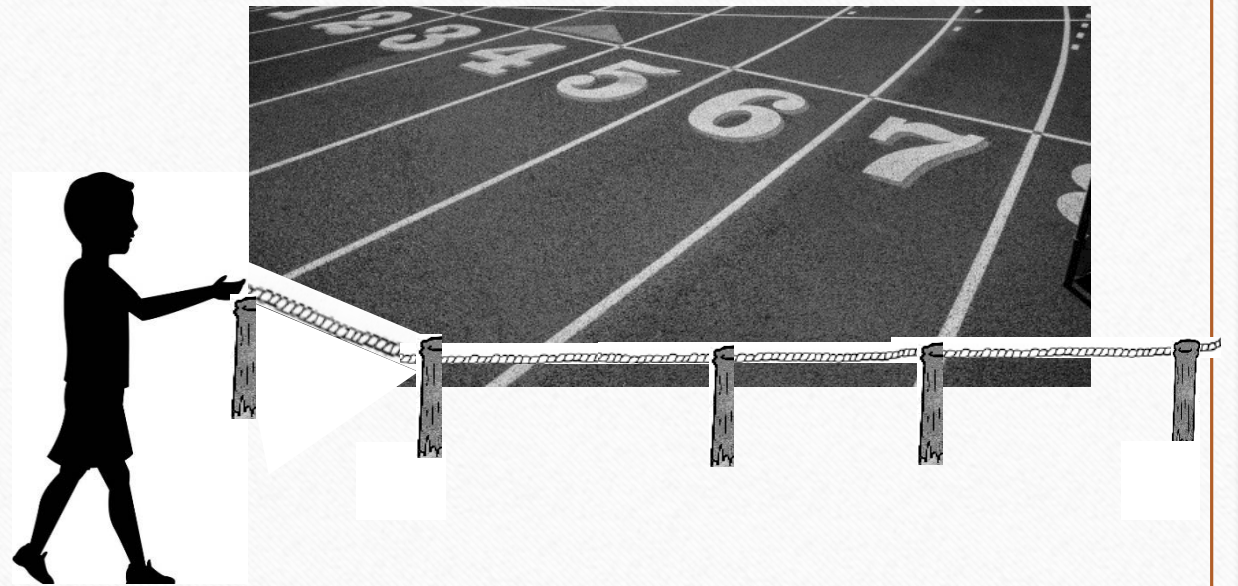
Coach told the blind-boy,

“Feel the rope -
follow-it.
You will know
where to-go.”



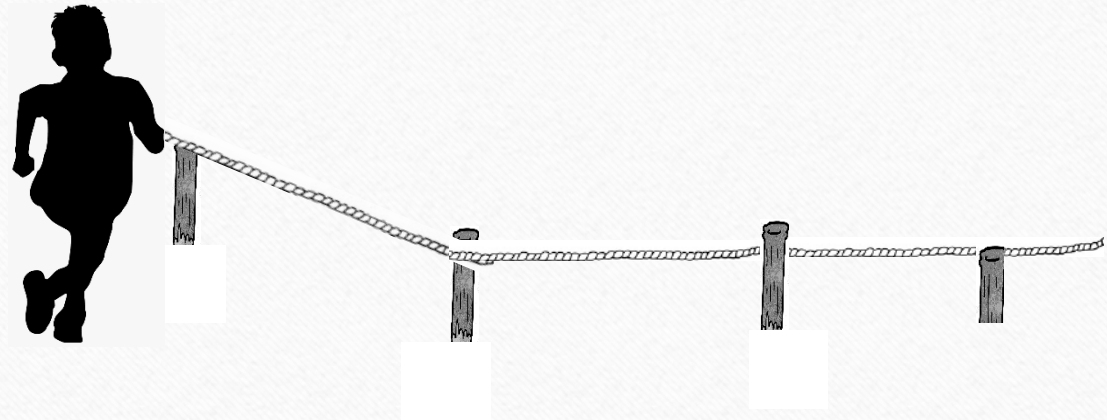
The blind-boy felt the rope.

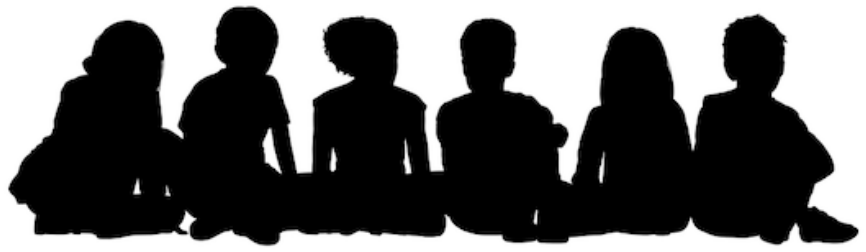
He walked slowly
and carefully as he
followed the rope.



Suddenly the boy started to-run!
He knew where to-go!

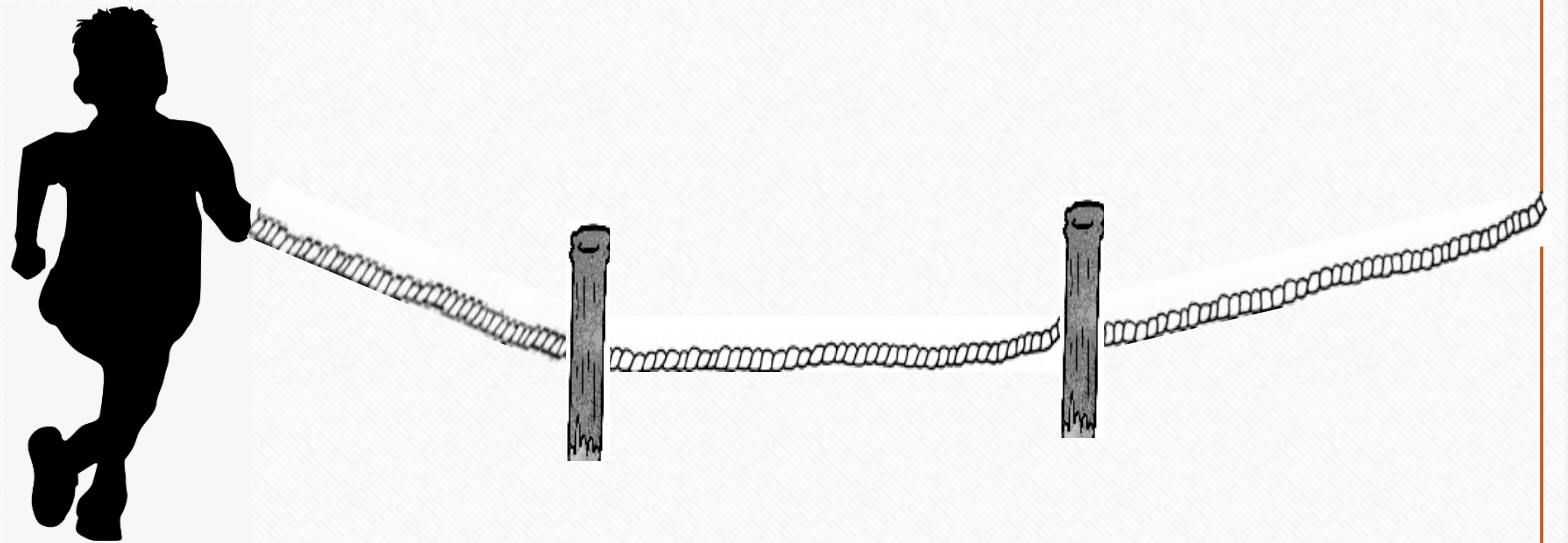
Unafraid, he ran
faster and faster!





The deaf children
watched the blind-boy run.

They were surprised!



When the blind-boy finished running,

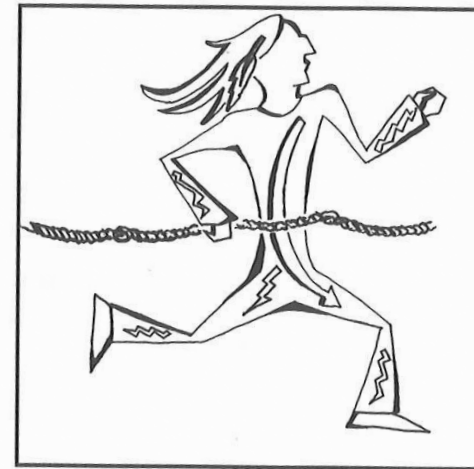
everyone
clapped and
cheered!





The deaf children

called the *Native
American blind-boy
Swift Runner*.

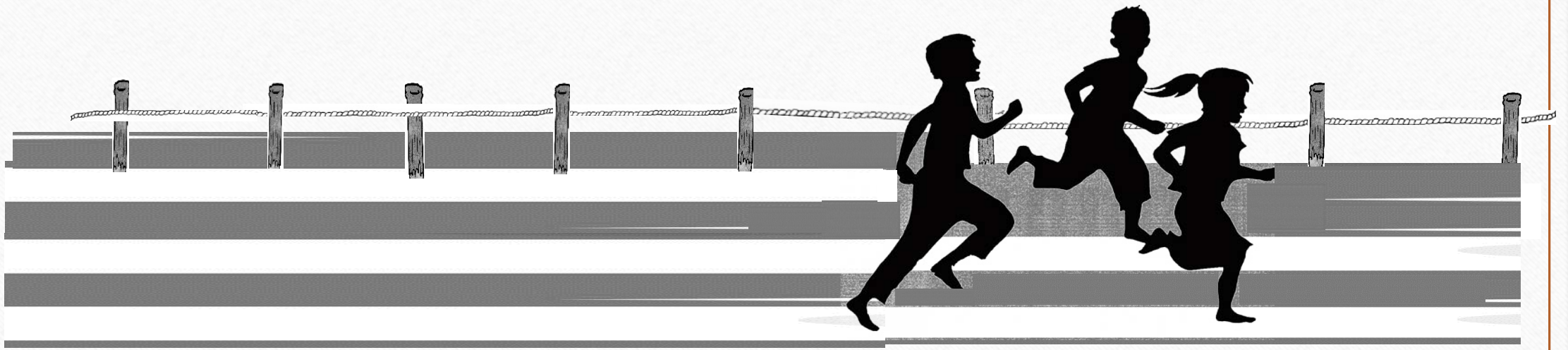


Swift Runner could not see.
He could not hear.



It didn't matter.
He could run fast!

Now Swift Runner could race
with the other deaf children!



Native American Story #2

Francis Feather

Name sign **FF** (similar to the sign for Indian)



Francis Feather

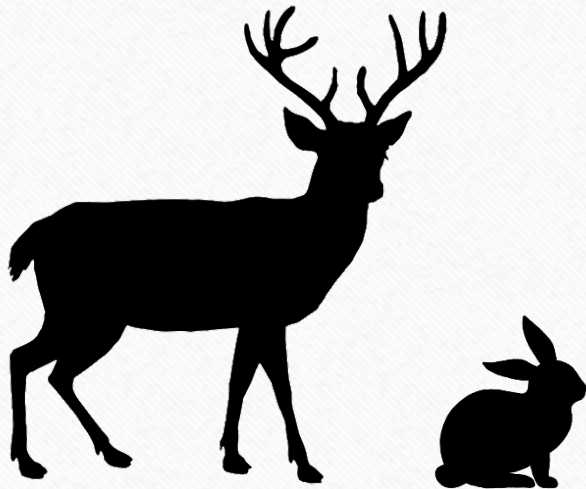
Francis was a boy from the Fort Totten **Sioux** Indian tribe.
He attended **NDSD** from 1951 to 1965.
He was a shy, quiet boy with a friendly smile.
He had nice handwriting and clear signing.



Francis Feather

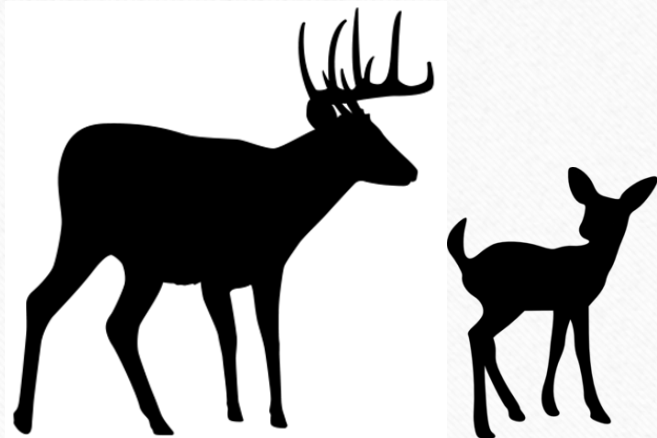
The boys and girls at NDSD respected Francis because he had a-lot-of stamina and could run long distances without seeming to get tired.

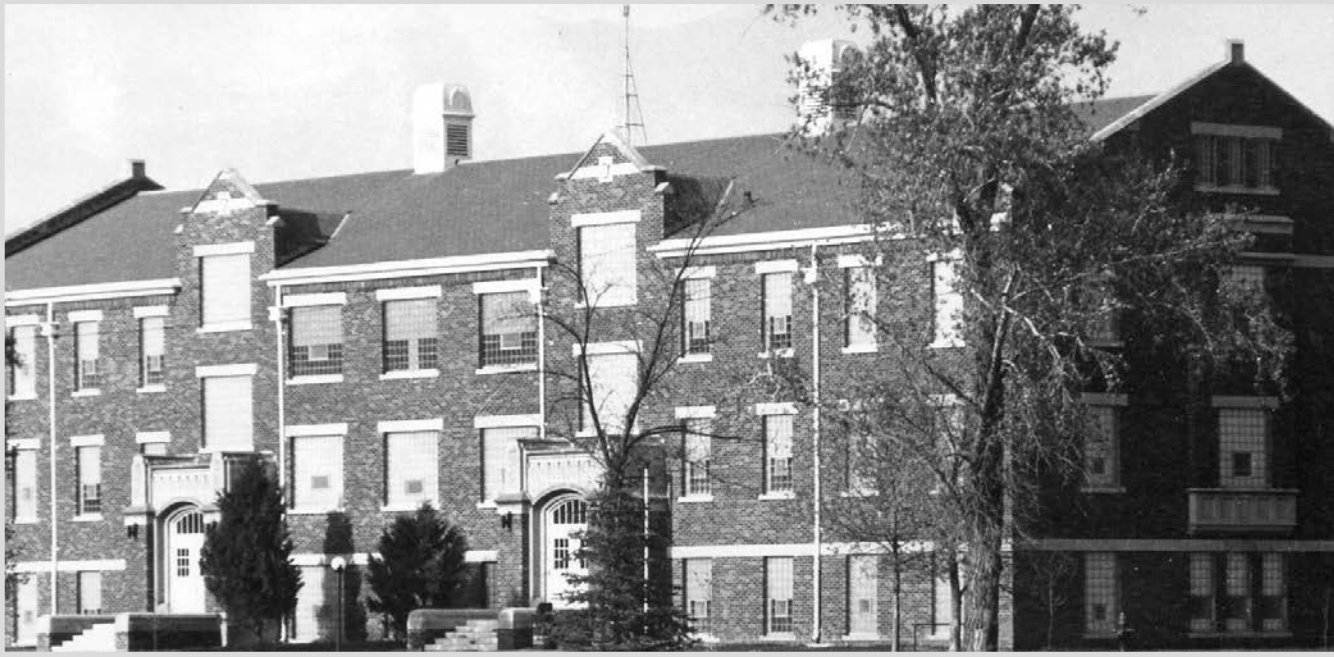
The most important thing about Francis was that he loved nature (trees, birds and animals).





Sometimes F Francis liked
to-go by himself, alone
into-the woods, to-watch
the birds and animals.





One fall evening,
F Francis was
missing from
the dorm.



Where-did F Francis go? The dorm supervisor
searched and searched but couldn't find him!
F Francis was not in the dorm.



Finally!
The supervisor found him.

F Francis had gone alone
into-the woods to-sleep.

He was using a rock for a pillow!
Francis felt comfortable outdoors.



The supervisor was not happy.
He glared-down-at Francis asleep.



The supervisor nudged Francis.



“Wake-up!
Come-to the
dorm now!
No more
sleeping outside!”



Later that winter,
Francis was
missing from
the **d**orm again!



Everyone searched for Francis.
He was not in the **d**orm - not in school!
Where was Francis?

The supervisor was-worried
because it was cold outside.



He drove-around searching for Francis.



Finally, he saw Francis. He was walking far-away on a snowy hill. He had walked 3 miles away from school!



The supervisor was angry.

He ran-up-to Francis
and scolded, “Why
did-you run-away?”





Francis signed, “See the fox tracks there
in-the-snow? I’m following the tracks.”



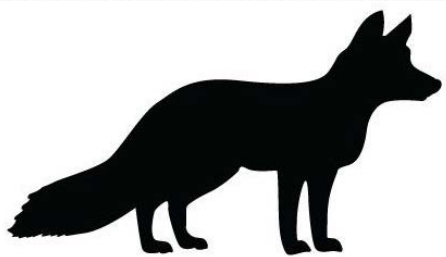


F Francis said, “I want to-catch the fox!”





Francis loved animals so much.
He wanted to-keep the fox!



The supervisor shook-his-head.

“No! You-will **not** catch the fox.
Get-into the car!
Dorm now!”

Francis felt disappointed.

The following fall, **NDSD's** football team played a game against another team.



Francis watched the game
with the other deaf children.

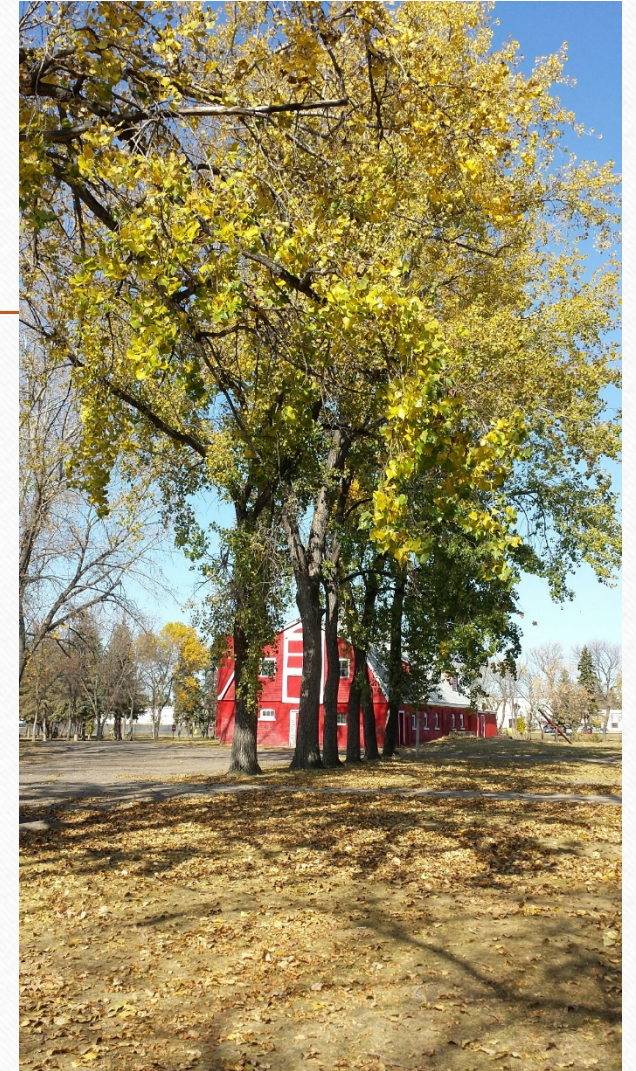


During half-time, Francis
walked-to the trees nearby.



Some deaf children followed Francis.

The children enjoyed being-with Francis
because he was friendly and nice.





Francis stood quietly near the trees.
Then he put his arm up
and pointed his finger.

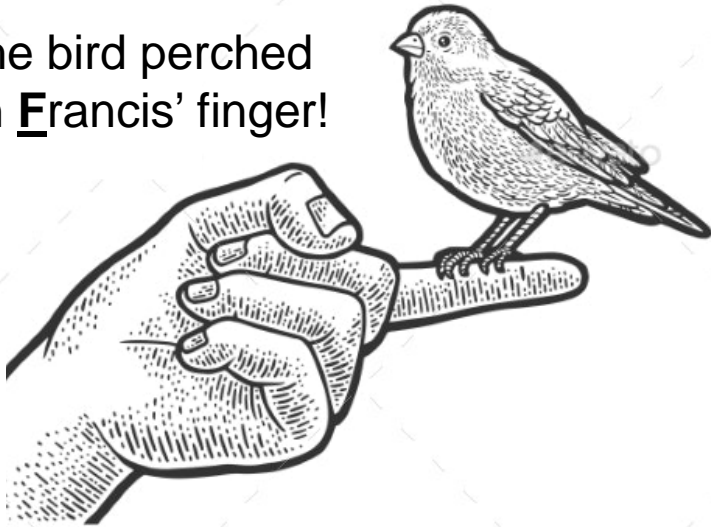


The boys and girls were puzzled.
Why was Francis standing like that?

Suddenly, from the tree, a bird flew-down
and perched-onto Francis' finger!



The bird perched
on Francis' finger!



The children were
surprised and excited!

They moved-closer to-see.

The bird was-scared
and flew-away.

Francis continued to-stand
quietly with-his-arm-outstretched.



Again! Another bird
flew-down and
sat-on-Francis'-finger!

The children laughed. They copied Francis,
arms-outstretched, and waited-for the birds
fly-down-to-their-fingers.



But the birds would-not fly-to the children.

Why did the birds like Francis?



Because Francis Feather
was a special boy.



He was called
'Child of Nature'.

Native American Story #3

John Lewis Clarke



John Clarke

John was a boy from the **Blackfoot** Indian tribe.

He attended **NDSD** from 1894 to 1897.

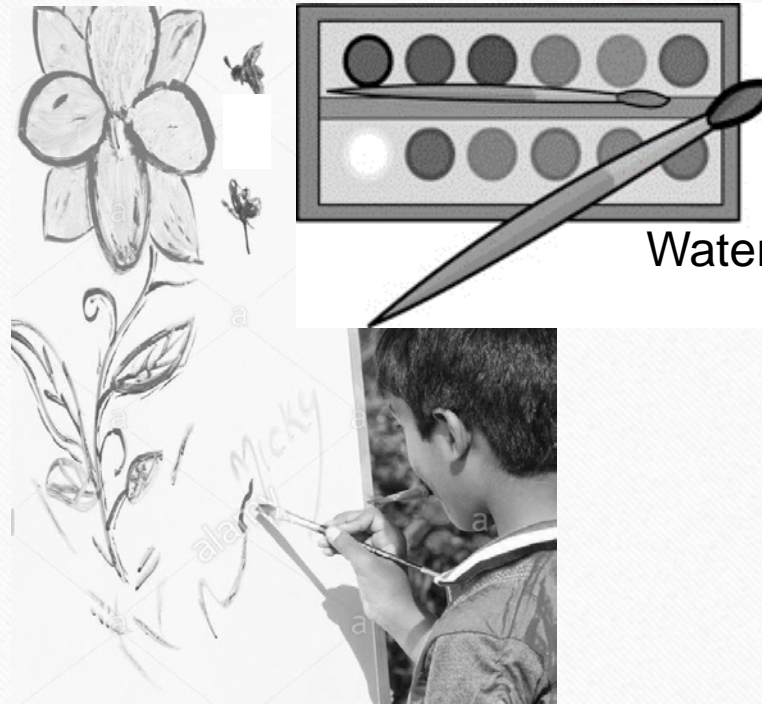
John started school when he was 13 years old - **NDSD** was his first school.

His father was happy that John would learn to read and write.

At age-15, John's family moved-to **Montana** – there John enrolled in the *Montana School for the Deaf*.

John was an artistic boy.

He used
watercolors
to-paint
beautiful
pictures.



Watercolor paints

John's favorite activity
was to-go-to the river.

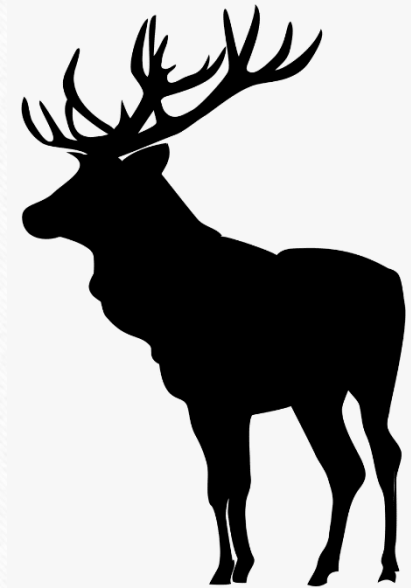
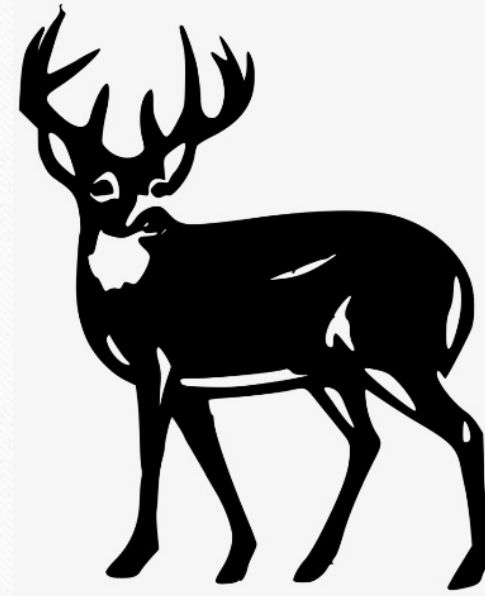


John loved to-fish!

He was a skilled fisherman
and caught many fish!



John enjoyed the outdoors.
He liked to-bow-hunt for deer and elk.



John's best skill was woodcarving.

He used a mallet,
a chisel, and
blocks-of-wood
to-make animals.



When John finished school,
he moved to the mountains in
Glacier Park, **M**ontana.



John set-up an art studio.



It was here that he
spent his days carving.

John said, "When I see an animal, I want
to-create-it-in wood as-near-as possible."



John carved many
animal sculptures.



John received praise and awards.



In 1941, ***Who's Who in Art*** said, "John Clarke is the world's best sculptor of western wildlife."



United States **President** Harding
got John's eagle sculpture.



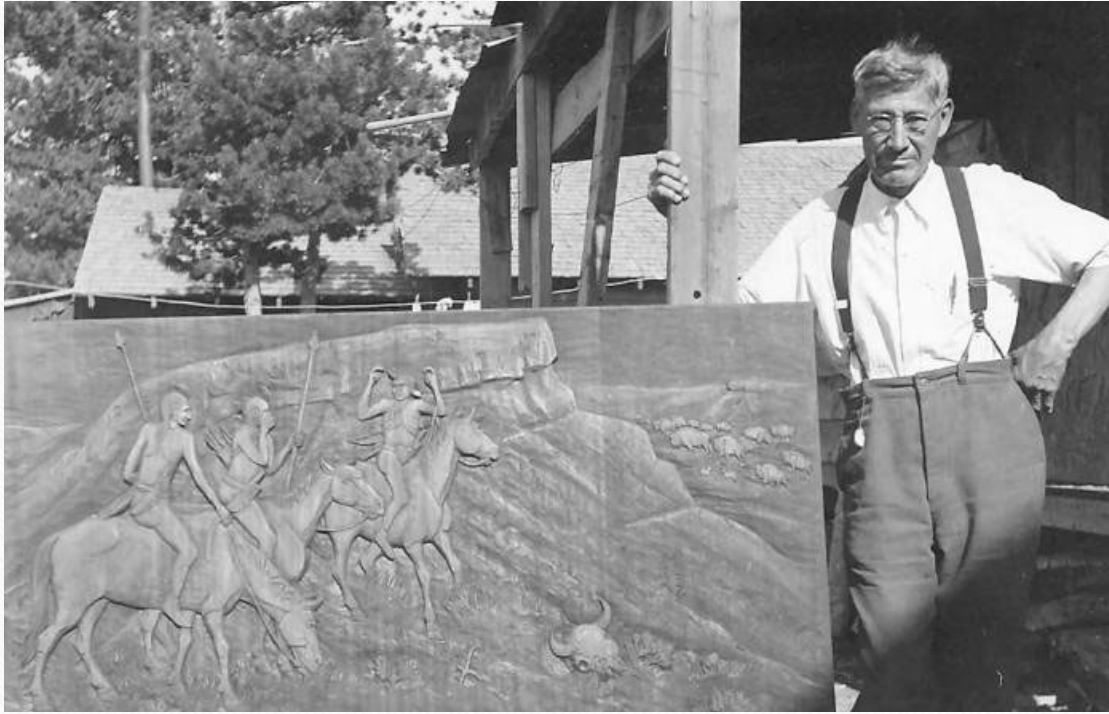
The **President** displayed the eagle
in his **Oval Office** at the White House.



Some of John's sculptures can be seen inside the
Smithsonian Museum in Washington, DC.



John continued to work, carve,
until he died (in 1970) at age-89.



When John died, his granddaughter said,
"Throughout his entire **l**ife,
my grandfather's hands were so important!"



John used his
hands ...

For sign language communication.



He **u**sed his hands to-bow-hunt.



He **u**sed his hands to-fish.



John used his hands to-paint beautiful pictures.



He **u**sed his hands to-carve wood.



John hands served him well!



If you take-a-trip to *Glacier Park* in **Montana**,
you can see John's **Art Gallery**.
It is still there!



Inside the Gallery, are many of John's paintings and sculptures.



John Clarke was proud to be
a *Native American* **Deaf** man.



These three *Native American* boys
lived and learned at **NDSD**.

Swift Runner



Francis Feather



John Clarke

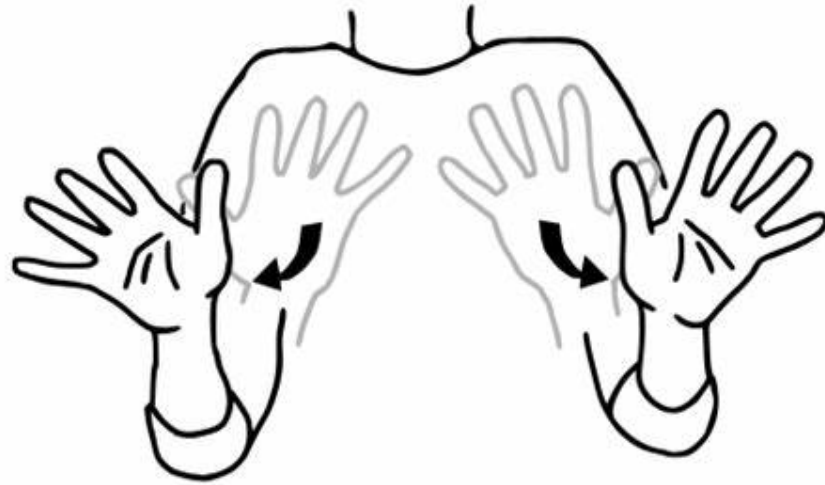


We feel proud of their Native American heritage
and their connection to our school!



The End

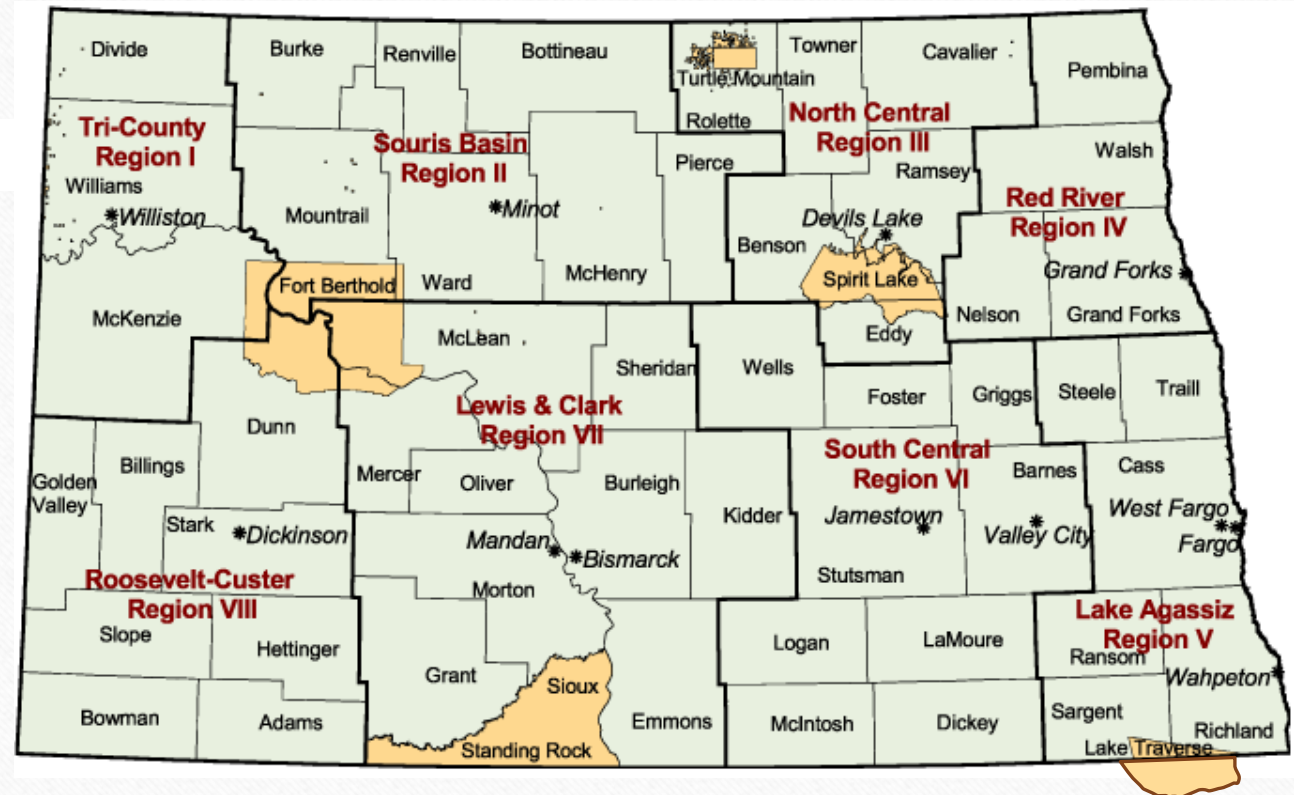
finished



In North Dakota there are five (5) reservations.

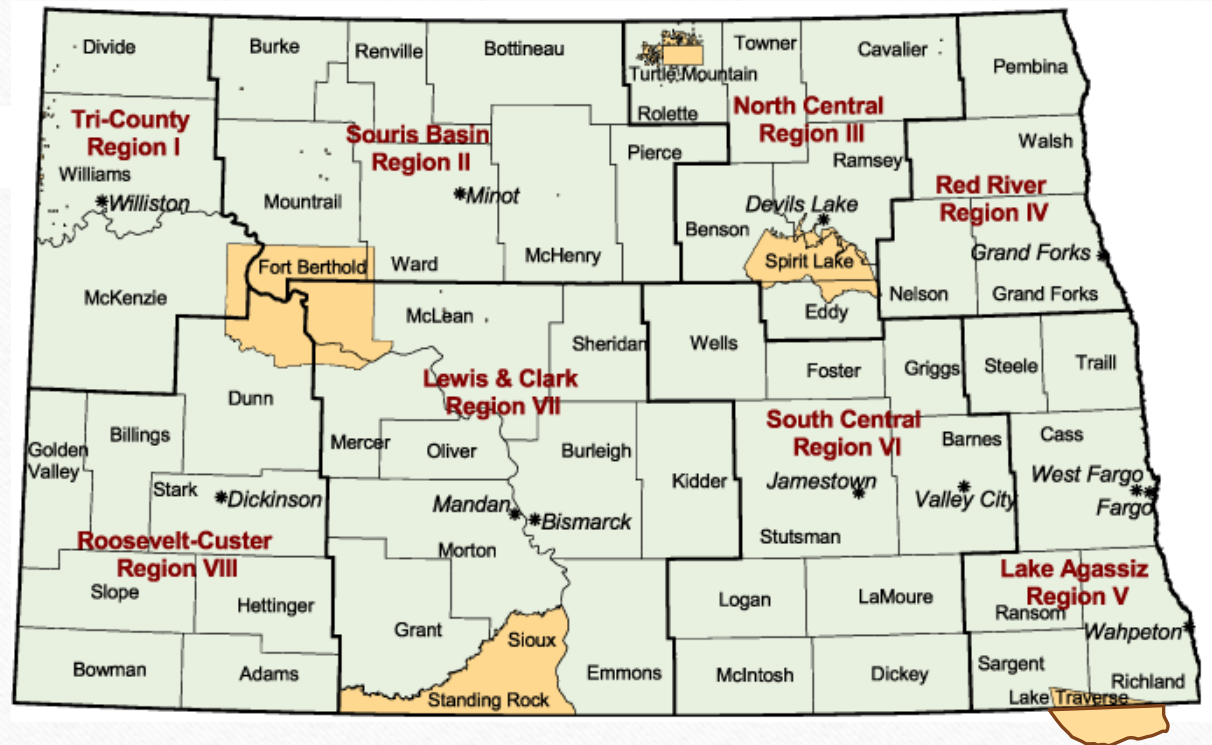
(1) Spirit Lake Reservation

About
4,000 people belong to the
Dakotah/Lakota **Sioux** tribes.



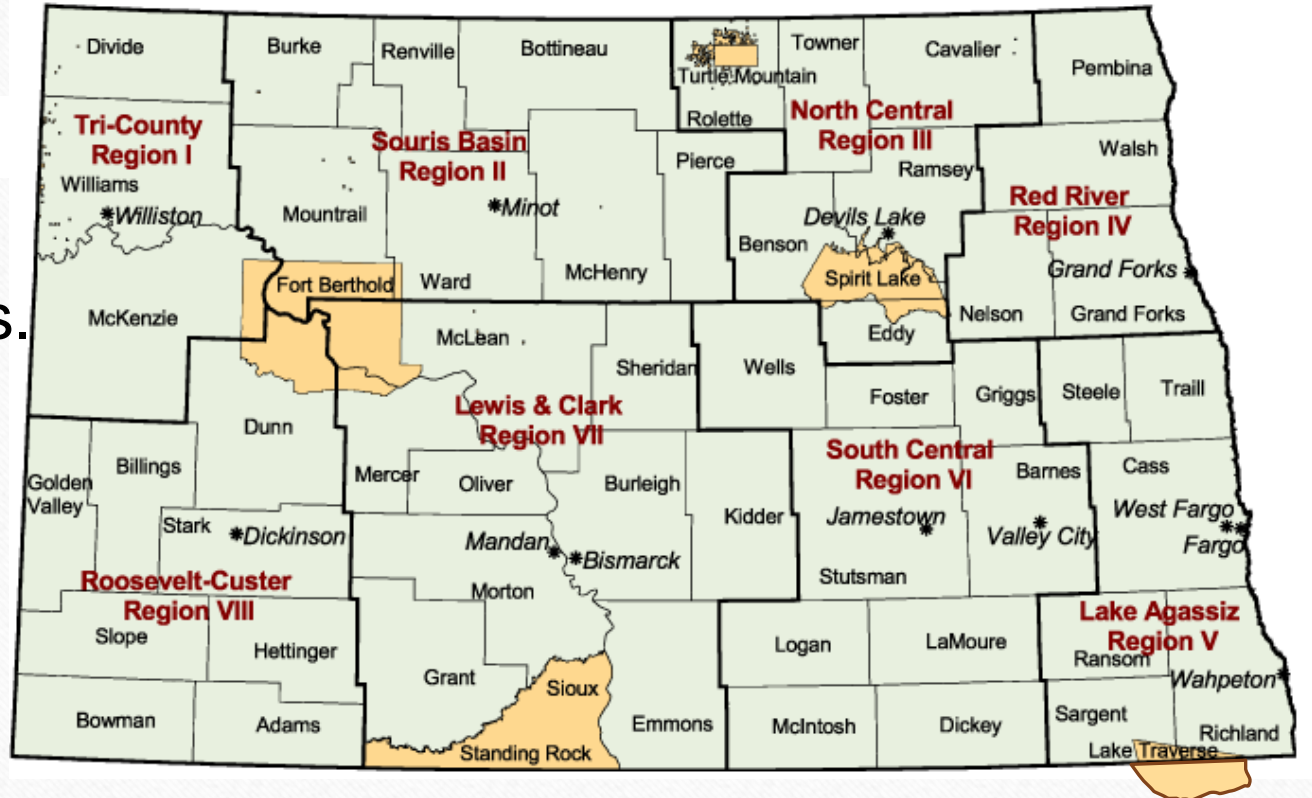
(2) Lake Traverse Reservation

About
11,000 people belong to the
Sisseton-Wahpeton tribes.



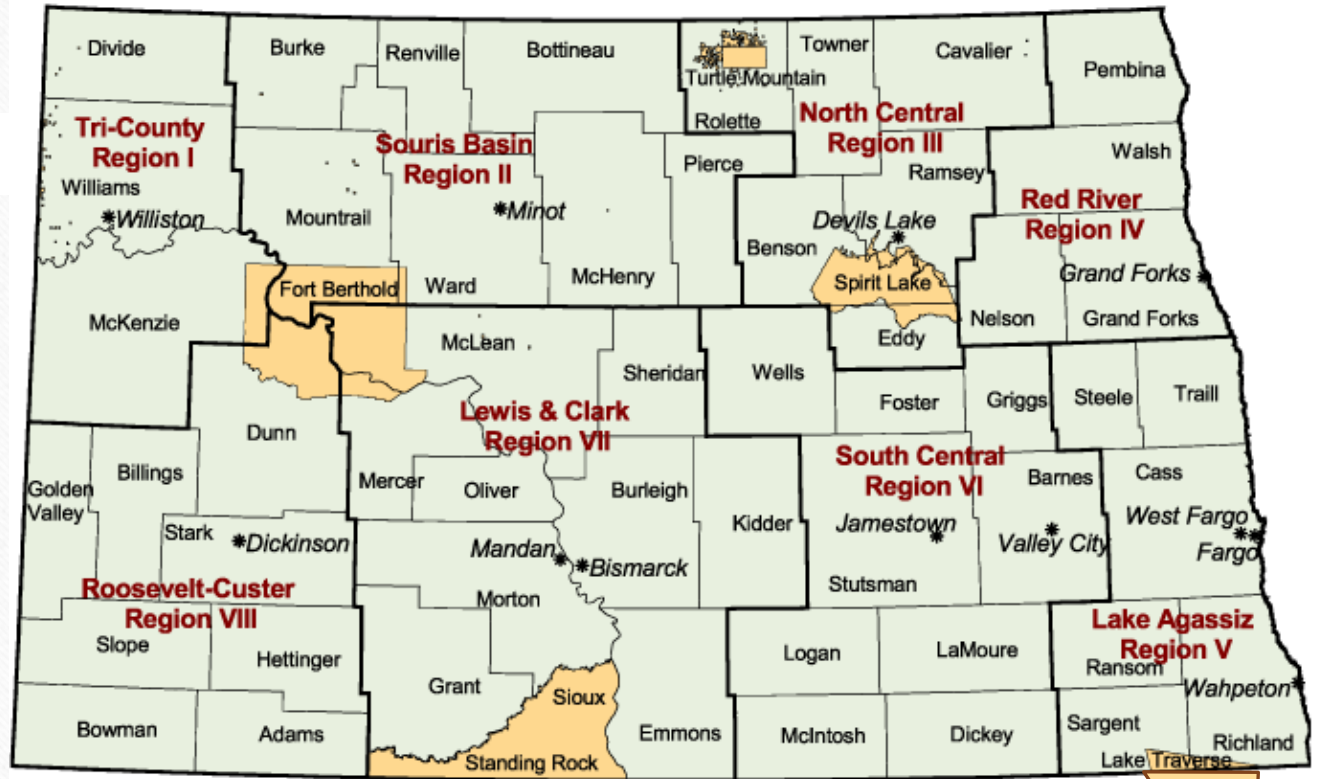
(3) Standing Rock Reservation

About
14,000 people belong to the
Dakotah/Lakota/Nakotah tribes.



(4) Fort Berthold Reservation

About
10,000 people belong to
Three Tribes
(Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara).

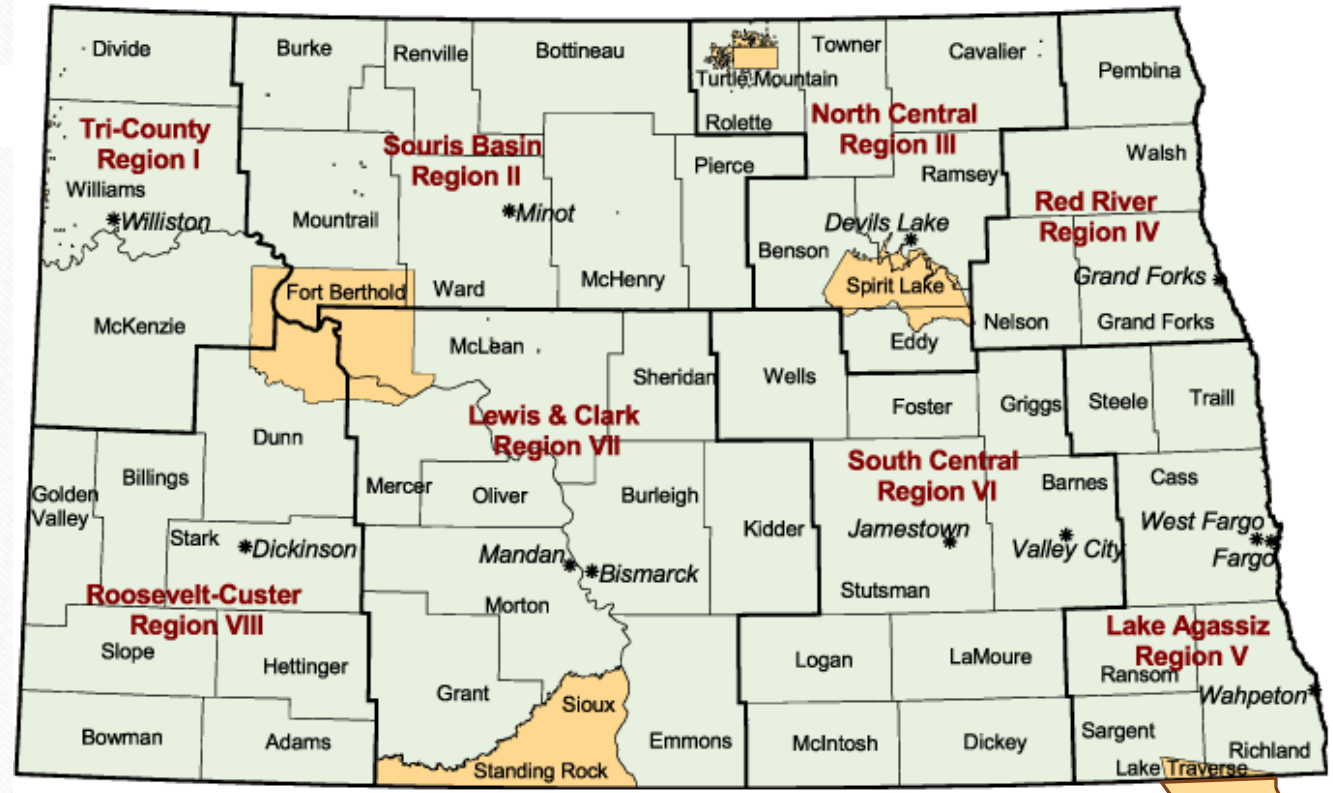


(5) Turtle Mountain Reservation

About 29,000 people belong to the **Chippewa** tribe.



Note: the smallest reservation has the most members.



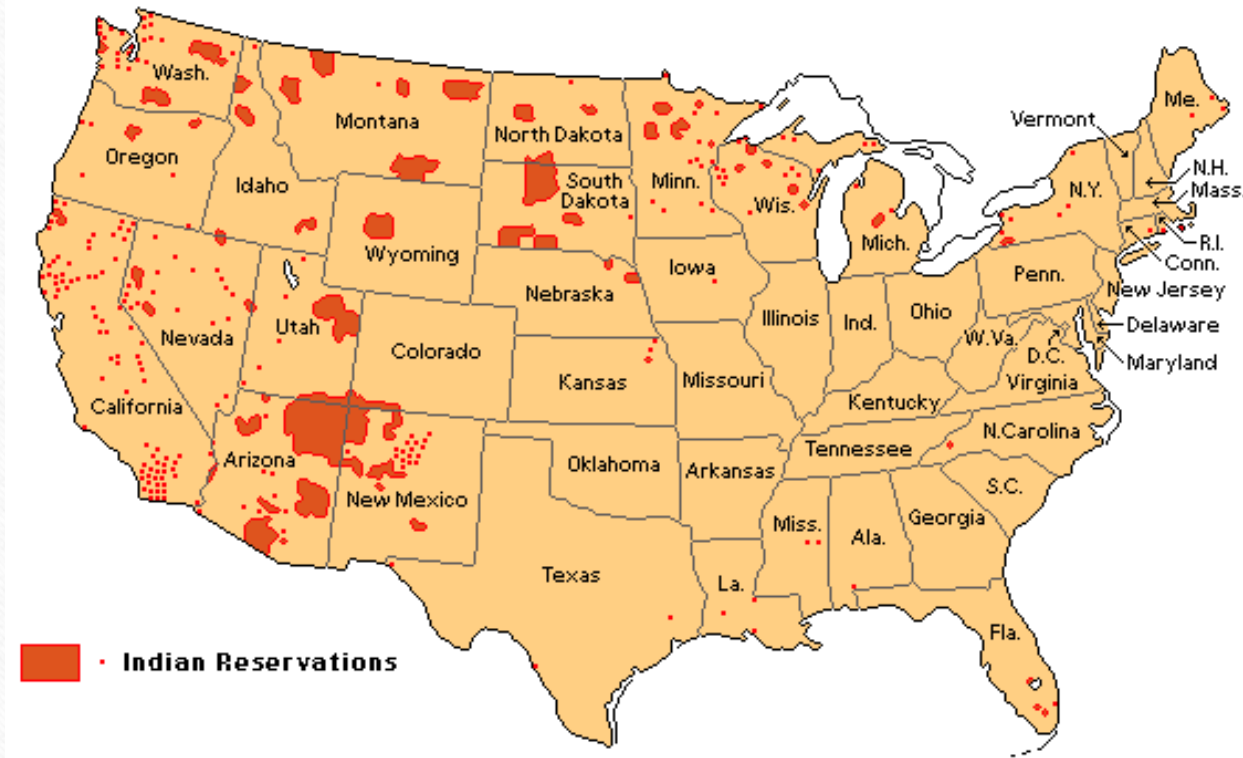
Native America people believe ...

if you take
care of
Mother Earth,



then
Mother Earth
will take care
of you.

Many Native American people live on land called
Indian Reservations.
There are 326 reservations in America.



Native Americans believe nature is important because nature provides food and water for people!

